

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-17 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 18-50 are pending.

The claims have been amended above to advance prosecution, without prejudice, in a manner believed to have been indicated by the Examiner to place the application in condition for allowance. Entry of the present Amendment and a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned in the event anything further is required in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:                     /B. J. Sadoff/                      
B. J. Sadoff  
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100